

## Better Things.

Better the love of a gentle heart, than beauty's favors proud;  
Better the rose's living seed, than roses in a crowd.  
Better to lose in loneliness, than bask in love all day;  
Better the fountain in the heart, than the fountain by the way.  
Better be fed by a mother's hand, than eat alone at will;  
Better to trust in God, than say, My goods my storehouse fill.  
Better to sit at a master's feet, than thrill the listening state;  
Better suspect that thou art proud, than be sure that thou art great.

Better to walk in the realm unseen, than watch the hour's event;  
Better the well done at the last, than the air with shouting rent.  
Better to have a quiet grief, than a hurrying delight;  
Better the twilight of the dawn, than the noon-day burning bright.  
Better a death when work is done, than earth's most favored birth;  
Better a child in God's great house than the king of all the earth.

—George Macdonald.

## NOBLESSE OBLIGE.

"Hang Miss Ashurst!"  
"Oh, Phil!"  
"Well, I can't help it. Why does she come here to spoil everything? Don't I know how it will be?—always Miss Ashurst to be considered, taken about, included in everything. No more drives and boat-rides, just you and me, Amy; no more evenings on the doorstep. I declare I've a great mind to go over to Uncle Phil's at Goshen for a month."

"Now, Phil, please," (coaxingly). "It won't be so bad as you think. Besides, you may like her very much. Mother says her mother was the greatest beauty in Connecticut."

"She isn't a beauty, though; I'll bet on that. A talking, writing, society woman—I hate the kind. Amy, will you go out for a row? We'll have one more while the boat is all our own."

This confabulation was held on either side of the Widow Mauran's garden gate—a model gate for purposes of conversation, just high enough and wide enough to accommodate two pair of elbows and allow the owners of the elbows to look easily into each other's eyes. Phil smiled into Amy's as he swung wide the barrier. He offered his arm, she took it, and they sauntered down to the shore. They were a picturesque couple to look at. Tall Phil, in spite of his momentary ill-temper, possessed a frank, handsome face, lit by fine eyes and the sweetest of smiles; while little Amy's modest, wild-flower beauty was exquisite in its way. Second cousins, intimate friends, all but declared lovers, it was a pleasant matter of course that they should be always together; and in spite of Amy's disclaimers she was at the bottom of her heart as sorry as Phil at this interruption to their *tele-a-tele*—as sorry or sorer; for blended with her regret was the instinctive apprehension of a girlish heart, which, pledged in fact though not in name, grieves with the unspoken dread that some other woman may yet pass by to snatch from her very lips the coveted untasted cup in whose depth lies or seems to lie, all the best sweetness of coming life. It was a comfort to have Philip so cross about it, however; and in the effort to soothe him she, woman-like, forgot her own annoyance. So the evening ended happily.

Next day brought the expected guest. Amy's first glance set her heart to quaking again. Never had she seen a woman in the least like this. Rose Ashurst was one of those born enchantresses who reign not only by intention but by right. Her beauty would have been remarkable had not her charm been more remarkable. Her wit and talent were balanced by a sweet good-humor which pervaded every word and act, and flavored all with fascination. Tact, culture, the perfect self-possession which verges upon self-forgetfulness, lent their aid to complete her attractions. And all was real. There was no pretense about Miss Ashurst. The kind looks which beamed from her beautiful eyes sprung from a kind heart. She threw herself into the interests of every human creature who approached her with a warmth born of true sympathy. No wonder she was popular. Popularity hardly spoiled her. She received her daily ovations as a matter of course, half indifferently, half gratefully, but always with a modest grace which enhanced her effect. A dangerous woman this to bring into propinquity with susceptible youths. Poor Amy!

But Amy, too, felt the charm. The dazzling brown eyes which had bewitched so many hearts, wrought their spell upon hers at once and she lent delighted aid in settling the new-comer and her belongings. This month in Pamigowasset was a sudden whirl of Miss Ashurst's. She wanted quiet and a place to write in, and the old homestead in which her great-grandmother was born seemed to meet these conditions, she wrote to offer herself as an inmate; and Mrs. Mauran, who was glad to add to her small income by an occasional boarder, gave pleased consent. All manner of pretty things came out of the trunks to adorn the simple chamber. Miss Ashurst could not live without artistic surroundings, and traveled always with photographs, sketches, books, small articles of *virtu*, and bits of bright color in this or that. These disposed on walls and table, with daintily frilled and embroidered covers laid over the old-fashioned pillows, an easel with its canvases and oil-tubes in one corner (Miss Ashurst painted pictures), a writing-table, exquisitely arranged, drawn into the window (Miss Ashurst wrote books), a sweet-faced Madonna painted on ivory, a few flowers grouped in a classic vase, made the homely keeping-room chamber over into a bower of romance, simple Amy thought. She stood as in a dream, inhaling the perfume of a wide, luxuri-

ous life, of a whole world of sensations and sights unknown till now, and scarcely comprehended.

"There!" said Miss Ashurst, giving the last touch to her vase of clematis and roses, "now I shall do beautifully. What a pleasant room this is! The very exposure I like best, and such a sweet view! It is just the room to work in. I am glad your mother let me come, Amy. I may call you Amy, may I not? We are relatives, you know—far away, but still relatives."

"O, yes, please do," cried Amy. "Everyone calls me so."

"How lovely she is!" was her soliloquy as she went down stairs. "I wonder what Phil will think of her? He will be surprised, I'm sure; but he must admire her—he can't help it."

She watched the expression of his eyes at tea-time, but it told her nothing. Phil scarcely spoke. He looked at Miss Ashurst a great deal, but Amy could only guess what the looks meant.

"Well?" she said, interrogatively, as they met on the door-steps after tea.

"Well," responded Phil.

"What do you think? Isn't she pretty?"

"Pretty!" with an indignant inflection.

"Why, Phil, how can you help thinking so?"

"Pretty is not the word at all. She is superb—beautiful."

"I thought you would think so," said Amy, cheerfully, but with a little stricture at her heart.

"Yes. She's not my style, of course; but she is a woman in a thousand. No wonder she has been such a belle all her life."

"I'm so glad you admire her. Now you won't mind her being here, and you'll be polite to her, won't you, Philip?"

"Oh, yes, I'll do whatever you wish," replied Phil, with a carelessness which was half affected.

"She's not Philip's style," whispered Amy to her pillow that night, and fell asleep with the talismanic sentence on her lips.

Alas! how easily things go wrong! A word too much or a kiss too long, And there followeth a mist and a blinding rain, And life is never the same again.

sings George Macdonald. Things went "wrong" in little Amy's world during the next fortnight. Was it only the presence of coming mists which darkened the blue, and made the days sad? Was it only foolish jealousy, or was it something tangible? She made herself miserable over these questions. She scolded herself; but scolding did no good; the wrong, hurt feeling would not leave her. And yet why was she hurt? Was it not natural and right that Philip should be attentive to their guest, who was on him, as on her, the claim of kindred blood—this guest who was so charming? For Amy never denied the charm; she felt it herself too strongly. Was it not the very thing she had asked him to do? Yes; but yet—but yet—And these reflections ended by deepening the vague unhappiness. Night after night she sat alone on the doorstep and watched the boat glide off into the moonlight. Phil at the car, Miss Ashurst with the tiller ropes in her white hands. "Come with us," they always said; but when she murmured an excuse they passed on cheerfully without her. Yes, it had come to that; Philip went without her and liked it just as well! The world—her world—had changed. Would it ever be "the same again?"

Philip was in a temporary daze of admiration; he neither reasoned or reflected. But for Miss Ashurst, no slightest glimpse of the truth had crossed her mind. She thought Amy a sweet, pretty child, but shy, and busy with household matters, as the only daughter of a widow in poor circumstances must naturally be. For Phil, he was charming; she liked him best when alone—the truth being that a slight uneasy consciousness made him awkward when in company with the old love, with whom he was somehow a little "off," and the new, with whom he was not fairly "on." So Miss Ashurst was not sorry when Amy refused to join in the moonlight rows, and, knowing nothing of what had gone before, it did not strike her as unusual or make her question. He and Amy were as brother and sister, she reflected. So her eyes being sealed by ignorance, and Phil's blinded as by a sudden spell, Amy's pale cheeks and woful looks passed unheeded except by one pair of eyes which were not sealed, namely, her mother's.

Mrs. Mauran was a quiet person; but her quiet concealed strength and a power of reading character. Instinctively she "took stock" of all persons with whom she came in contact, and her instinct rarely failed. A bitter experience had taught her how "easily things go wrong" in this world of ours, and though she "hated to meddle," and was sorry to lose her boarder, she resolved to appeal to the sweetness and nobility which she felt were the underlying stratum of Miss Ashurst's nature. It was in this wise that she accomplished her purpose:

Miss Ashurst and Phil had been off on a drive prolonged into late twilight. Tea was over. Phil had strolled down to the village after the mail, and Mrs. Mauran sat beside her guest in the shaded porch.

"Where is Amy?" asked Miss Ashurst.

"Gone to bed with a bad headache," said Mrs. Mauran.

"A headache? I am so sorry! Isn't there something out of my medicine-case which would relieve her?—pulsatilla, perhaps, or iris." Miss Ashurst was a devoted homoeopath.

"I think there is something. Not out of your case, however," replied Mrs. Mauran, quietly.

"What can you mean?"

"My dear Miss Ashurst, may I speak frankly to you about something that is on my mind? And you will not think me unkind or impertinent?"

"I am quite sure you will be neither."

"I want to tell you a little story which concerns Phil and Amy."

"Phil and Amy?"

"Yes. They are second cousins, as you know. Phil's father was my most intimate friend, and the children were naturally brought up together. Last spring Phil, who trusts me as if I were his mother, begged my leave to ask Amy to be his wife." She paused a moment. Miss Ashurst said nothing, only leaned forward a little and listened. "I told him that Amy was so young that he had better wait a few months before he said anything. I wish I hadn't."

"Why?"

"I don't know why. It might have been better. Since that time Phil has seen a woman a little older, far more beautiful than my little girl, richer in all that life has to give, but not richer as far as he is concerned, for she has no love to give him and Amy has. If she had, if she could, I should not speak. As it is, I do."

There was another pause.

"My dear Mrs. Mauran—thank you," said Miss Ashurst at last. "You were right to speak. I have made mischief, but without knowing it. You are sure of that, I hope."

"I am sure of it."

"Phil is a charming person. I like him extremely and of course I saw that he—liked me. But I never thought of it as a serious thing. A great many other people have felt the same and have gotten over it."

"Phil will get over it also. He has loved you but three weeks and Amy three years. It is a glamour which will wear off."

Miss Ashurst smiled still, but less brightly. It was not pleasant to be agreed with so cordially in matters of this kind. "Yes," she said; "it is as you say, a glamour. It will disappear as I disappear. And the sooner that disappearance takes place the better. I shall have a letter this evening which will oblige me to leave you day after to-morrow. Will that do?"

"My dear Miss Ashurst, my dear kinswoman, believe me when I say that I am truly sorry that anything must make you go. You are what I thought, what I trusted, and I thank you with all my heart."

"I thank you for trusting me," replied Miss Ashurst.

But after she went up stairs her face changed. Long she stood at the window looking out at the dim-tinted sea.

"It has been very nice," she whispered to herself at last. But this is foolish, I must go to bed."

Miss Ashurst's letter of recall came, and on the day fixed she left. Amy, dazed, as it were, by this sudden departure, reproached herself heartily for feeling glad. This reproach deepened into remorse when, the farewells spoken and the beautiful, radiant presence vanished, she found her walls and table ornamented with good-by gifts. There were the photographs she had most admired, the books, even the Madonna, ivory-painted and velvet-swung all left her by her sweet-hearted rival. A mist of penitence tears dimmed her eyes; but, in spite of penitence and of tears, she was glad. For Phil, the rattle of the wheels which bore his charmer away was like the sound which breaks sharply into some fantastic dream. Metaphorically speaking, he rubbed his eyes. For a day or two he hung about vacant and listless; then he roused, as desirous to pick up dropped threads again. Somehow Amy was more difficult to approach than of yore. A little veil rested between them. She was not always to be had when wanted. We value what we work for, what we hold with some trembling sense of insecurity. As weeks went on Phil grew to prize Amy more than ever. The knowledge that he had half lost her intensified his love. It required months to win his way back to the old place. But at last

"Are you quite, quite sure that you care most for me?" whispered Amy, sweetly, the night after their engagement.

"Most! Altogether, you mean. There is no other."

"Not even Miss Ashurst?"

"Not even Miss Ashurst; though!" and Phil lifted his cap as before a queen—

"—she is a stunner, a real lady, every inch of her, and as good as she is beautiful. Bless her."

And bless her, say we. *Noblesse oblige.*—*Harper's Bazar.*

With men the heart is known by our words; but with God our words are weighed by our hearts.—*Bernard.*

## The Deacon's Singing School.

"I am going out to see if I can start a singing-school," said the good man, as he stood buttoning up his overcoat, and muffling up his ears, one bitterly cold night this winter.

"A singing-school?" said his wife, "how will you do that?"

"I have heard of a widow around the corner a block or two who is in suffering circumstances. She has five little children, and two of them down sick, and has neither fire nor food. So Bonnie Hope, the office boy tells me. I thought I would just step around and look into the case."

"Go, by all means," said his wife, "and lose no time. If they are in such need we can relieve them some. But I can't see what all this has to do with starting a singing-school. But never mind, you need not stop to tell me now; go quickly, and do all you can for the poor woman."

So out into the piercing cold of the wintry night went the husband, while the wife turned to the fireside and her sleeping babes, who, in their warm cribs, with the glow of health upon their cheeks, showed that they knew nothing of cold or pinching want. With a thankful spirit she thought of her blessings, as she sat down to her little pile of mending. Very busily and quietly she worked, puzzling all the time over what her husband could have meant by starting a singing-school. A singing-school and the widow! how queer! what possible connection could they have?

At last she grew tired of the puzzling thought, and said to herself, "I won't bother myself thinking about it any more. He will tell me all about it when he comes home. I only hope he may be able to help the widow and make her poor heart sing for joy." There! she exclaimed, "can that be what he meant? The widow's heart singing for joy! Wouldn't that be a singing-school? It must be; it is just like John. How funny that I should find it out!"—and she laughed merrily at her lucky guess. Taking up her work again she stitched away with a happy smile on her face, as she thought over again her husband's words and followed him in imagination in his kind ministrations. By-and-by two shining tears dropped down, tears of pure joy, drawn from the deep wells of her love for her husband, of whom she thought she never felt so fond before. At the first sound of footsteps she sprang to open the door.

"Oh John! did you start the singing-school?"

"I reckon I did," said the husband, as soon as he could loose his wrappings; "but I want you to hunt up some flannels and things to help keep it up."

"Oh, yes! I will; I know now what you mean. I have thought it all out. Making the widow's heart sing for joy is your singing-school. What a precious work, John! 'Pure religion and undefiled is to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction.' My own heart has been singing for joy all the evening because of your work, and I do not mean to let you do it alone. I want to draw out some of this wonderful music."

There are many hearts which would be the better if there could be singing-schools started in them. Let's you and I, do all we can. Perhaps others may catch the keynote, and help to swell the song, until many a widow's heart shall be comforted, and the fatherless be fed.—*Louise J. Kirkwood, in Advocate and Guardian.*

## The Deacon's Advice.

The ice-pond by the school-house is in splendid skating order, and it's all a-bloom with boys and girls. Such fun as they have! Such shouting, laughing and darting this way and that, like birds or tulips, or what you will, blown about by the breeze. This is all very well.—The deacon says it makes him young again to see it. For that matter he is often in among them, skates and all—the swiftest among the swift.

"It's glorious sport," says the deacon sometimes when he's on the way home with the youngsters, skates in hand,— "glorious sport! But there's one thing I never do, and I advise you against it too—that is to kneel upon the ice. It seems a natural thing to do, just for a minute, when you wish to tighten your straps; but don't you try it. It's dangerous. It may lame you for life, and it is pretty sure to give you cold or injure you in one way or another."

He says more, but they walk by so fast that Jack cannot catch the rest.—*St. Nicholas.*

PRaising THE WORK OF FRIENDS.—There is another matter about which we are apt to be unjust in our friendships. We are so sensitive to the charge of over-estimating the value of a friend's work through prejudice, that sometimes we let a stranger get the better of us in the expression of appreciation and praise. This is a small and damnable selfishness.—

Why should we not praise the sermon, the picture, the story, the poem of our friend? How did he get to be our friend in the first place. Did we not choose him from among the thousand, because of these very qualities which attract us anew in his art.—*Scribner.*

## A Well-dressed Woman.

The Nebulous Person in the Galaxy thus discourses:

The N. P. has seen a perfectly well-dressed woman; has actually met her face to face, looked upon her, and laid the unfading image of her aside in the most sacred recesses of his memory. She was not beautiful, nor even pretty; and so, madam, you may let down your nostrils and uncurl the corners of your mouth. She had not even a fine figure, in which very important respect she was only "fair to middling," as they say in trade. But as she approached the august presence, the misty form was conscious of a subtle sense of pleasure. As she came nearer and nearer this increased, and when it became all too certain that it was not her beauty which awoke this delightful sensation; there was a moment of thoughtful hesitation in the nebulous mind, and then it became clear enough that it was the woman's dress that was so beautiful, and that it was the extreme rarity of this particular kind of beauty which made the sensation we have mentioned. Of course we must tell what this dress was. Nothing easier. It was a simple, loose gown, high upon the shoulders, girdled loosely, but tightly, at the waist, and falling in light, easy folds, not to the ground, but nearly to the ground behind and not quite so low before, so that, as the woman walked, not even the hem of her garments swept the sidewalk.

There was not a flounce, or a ruffle, or a plait, or a patch of trimming of any kind upon the dress, the skirt of which was ample enough to afford perfect ease of motion and to be graceful, but was not full, was not tied back, did not hang over a bustle, and there was no overskirt. The material was muslin, or some cotton stuff; and—oh, madam! read, mark and inwardly digest—it was not starched. It did not stand stiff, or break up into patches or make a rustling and a cracking as she walked. It was soft in texture, soft in outlines and noiseless. Had it no ornament at all? Yes, indeed. Around the bottom hem, at the wrists and at the throat, there was a narrow, figured border of blue, beautiful in design and in color, which gave the dress a perfect finish, and was attractive in itself without being at all obtrusive. Over this dress she wore a short, light garment of the same material, sleeveless and falling to the hips. This costume might have been worn by a Greek woman, by Aspasia herself, to the delight of Pericles, and yet there was nothing about it which seemed *outré* or even strange, except its simple elegance. Who the woman was who thus clothed herself with beauty will probably ever remain a nebulous fact in the modern history of costume.

Chinese Women's Ways.

The women are certainly not pretty those one sees working out of doors decidedly coarse-looking, and their costume in this part of China most unbecoming, consisting of a short black blouse confined at the waist by a belt, and a wide apron, and very, very short, wide trousers, sometimes hardly reaching the knee, below which the leg is left entirely bare, and their feet thrust into straw slippers with no heels, which they can only keep on by shuffling along the ground in a most irritating manner. Their redeeming feature is their hair, which, as well as their eyes, is invariably black, and almost as invariably neatly dressed. Their heads seem more impervious to heat and cold than those of the men, as they seldom wear any covering except that bestowed on them by nature, and of which, by the by, the men are defrauded; so that the working class have to supply the deficiency by wearing the large, slightly conical hat which you see in any pictures of Chinamen, and which answers equally well the purpose of sunshade or umbrella. The dress of the better class of women is, I think, rather pretty, and certainly most sensible; for, as it does not fit to the figure, very little may be worn in summer and a great deal in winter without inconvenience. In their case both the under-garments and a petticoat descend to the ankle; only the upper one of all is short, and the color and material of the whole costume are varied according to taste and the season of the year. Their feet are also clad like ours, in stockings, and they wear the usual very thick but light-soled shoes. I speak, of course, of those who allow their feet to remain in the natural form. The small-footed women look as if their heels were bound tightly up so as to form part of the leg and their toes only were left for use.—*Ex.*

The following story is told of a member of Parliament who, wishing to conciliate an old neighbor, a voter, sent him a pineapple from his hot house. "I hope you liked it," he said to the old man, when he met him a few days afterward. "Well, yes, thanks, pretty well. But I suppose we sort of people are not used to them fine things, and I don't know how to eat 'em." "How did you eat it, then?" asked the M. P. "Well," said the man, "we boiled 'em." "Boiled it?" sighed the M. P., thinking of his pineapple. "Yes, we boiled 'em with a leg of mutton."

In the line of "How to Bring up Parents" is the speech of a little boy, who said, "Father, I think you should live up swearing or family prayers."

Brigham Young has ordered that all balls and parties given in the ward school houses shall begin at 1 o'clock in the afternoon and close at ten in the evening, and has prohibited round dances.

Flash language—telegraphic talk.

## How a Cricket Saved a Ship.

In Southey's "History of Brazil" he tells how Cabeza de Vaca was in a great ship going to South America with four hundred men and thirty horses; and after they had crossed the Equator, the commander discovered that there were only three casks of water left. He gave orders to make the nearest land, and for three days they sailed for the coast. A poor, sick soldier who had left Cadiz with them brought a grillo, or ground cricket, with him, thinking its cheerful voice would amuse him on the long, dreary voyage. But, to his great disappointment, the little insect was perfectly silent the whole way.

The fourth morning after the ship had changed her course, the cricket, who knew what she was about, set up her shrillest note. The soldier at once gave warning to the officers in charge of the vessel, and they soon saw high, jagged rocks just ahead of them. The watch had been careless, and the great ship in a few moments would have been dashed to pieces on the ledges, if this puny creature had not scented the land, and told them of their danger. Then they cruised along for some days; and the cricket sang for them every night, just as cheerily as if she had been in far off Spain, till they got to their destined port, the Island of Catalina.—*Selected.*

## How England is Supplied With Food.

The English food supply is an increasingly interesting subject for American farmers, as it is likely to be more and more drawn from American sources.—England is increasing her grain production by higher manuring and better methods of tillage; but aside from this, the tendency in ordinary times is to devote more and more land to stock growing and feeding. Just now the foot and mouth disease is doing bad mischief in this branch of food production, and the result will probably be, for the next year or two, a decrease in the amount, both of cereal and meat as food which will be produced in Great Britain. During the past year, as appears by statistics recently published, 1,068,166 animals of all kinds were imported into the United Kingdom. The animals are epitomized as follows: 119,808 oxen and bulls, 38,013 cows, 86,041 calves, 758,915 sheep and lambs, and 118,389 swine. The total quantity of dead meat imported into the United Kingdom was 968,921 cwt. as compared with 890,839 cwt. in 1873, and 853,255 cwt. in 1872.

## The Cause of It.

Appleton's Journal tells this story: In a city of Munster an old woman died, and the neighbors desired to give her a grand wake. The floors of the house were very shaky, and the people were warned by the priests and other authorities that they must not have their ceremonies in the upper room where the dead body lay. The friends paid no attention to the warning. It would probably have been contrary to precedent to remove the corpse before the time for its final removal. So the neighbors gathered in the upper room and lamented until the floor gave way and they all came down into the room below. It proved that the wake was only the beginning of tragedy. Five or six of the people were killed. A doctor was sent for, who only arrived in time to certify the deaths. But the dead bodies were laid out with some order and decency in an undamaged room, and the doctor went to one after another, followed by a sympathetic crowd. "Who is this poor fellow?" he asked. "Ah, then, rest his soul," went a chorus of voices—"good son and good brother he was"—and then his name was mournfully recited, and other praises added. "And this poor girl?" "The Lord have mercy on her, for a better girl never drew the breath of life," and then her name was given amid fresh praises and groaning choruses of assent. Thus the doctor went his melancholy way, and surveyed corpse after corpse. In every case thus far he has heard nothing but lament and panegyric. His *inane munus* is nearly over when his eye lights on something like a bundle of old clothes thrust carelessly into a corner. "What is that thing there?" the doctor asks. "Oh, then, bad luck to her," is the answer, accompanied by a general sound of anger and disgust—"that's the old corpse that was the cause of it all!"

In Africa, according to Dr. Robert Brown, the birth of twins is commonly regarded as an evil omen. No one except the twins themselves and their nearest relatives are allowed to enter the hut in which they first saw the light. The children are not allowed to play with other children, and even the utensils of the hut are not permitted to be used by any one else. The mother is not allowed to talk to any one not belonging to her own family. If the children both live to the end of the sixth year it is supposed that Nature has accommodated herself to their existence, and they are thenceforth admitted to association with their fellows. Nor is this abomination of twins restricted to Africa. In the Island of Bali, near Java, a woman who is so unfortunate as to bear twins is obliged, along with her husband, to live a month at the sea shore or among the tombs, until she is purified. Among the Ainos, one of the twins is always killed, and at Arebo, in Guinea, both twins and the mother are put to death. Mark Twain and Josh Billings are, it is not generally known, twins by the same mother, and, unfortunately, they were not born at Ainos.

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### Proceedings of the Belleville Convention.

Inquiries have of late reached this office as to when the reports of the proceedings of the last teachers' convention may be looked for. We don't know, but wish we did. More red tape than usual, is the probable explanation of this delay—a delay, which considering the great success of the convention is certainly inexcusable.

### The Why of It.

In a letter from foreign parts, which appeared in the JOURNAL a few weeks ago, mention was made of a visit by the writer to a British institution having two departments; one, a primary or, as they are pleased to style it, the "Infant Department." Applicants for admission under the age of ten years go into this department, all above that age into the other department, and, of course, when one in the lower division becomes ten years of age, he is transferred to the higher. Our friend, the visitor, being of a practical turn of mind, and an instructor of the deaf himself, inquired of the principal his experience in the matter, whether those admitted direct into the higher department, or those transferred from the lower made the most rapid improvement. His reply was rather startling: those admitted direct made the most rapid strides toward knowledge.

This, if it proves anything, proves, in the case of that school at least, altogether too much. It proves that whoever has charge of the "Infant Department" has, to put it mildly, much of his business yet to learn. For how can it be otherwise if he cannot turn out pupils of sufficient capacity to hold their own in the race with the raw scholars. But they don't seem able to compete, even. They are outstripped in the race.

We do not propose to go into a dissertation of anything that is so self-evident. Everybody in this country knows that the sooner a child is put under instruction the better chance it has of becoming thoroughly educated; and, if no serious mental complications exist, its school education can be finished much earlier. But to be done there must be men at hand who know how to do it. Incompetency may exist in institutions having no such departments or methods as our British example, and it may exist in institutions contemporary; it should exist in neither.

A possible State and county course of instruction under the Statutes of the State of New York is seventeen years. A deaf-mute entering the New York Institution, for instance, at the age of six can remain as a county pupil until his twelfth year. Then becoming a State pupil, he has a course of eight years before him, at the conclusion of which, if he does well, he is entitled to an additional three years in the High Class. Many enter this institution as county beneficiaries; but few, if any, stay through the possible course. There is a noticeable class of what we call arbitrary graduates, who after completing their county course and some part of their State term, learning a good deal, by the way, come to think themselves smart enough for all practical purposes, and at some vacation leave school and do not return. If all would only stay till their last available moment there is no telling to what height they might climb upon the ladder of learning.

Before the enactment of the county law, pupils entering at twelve, usually staid out their State term, and as much more as they could manage to get. We hope no mild lunatic with the hope of retaining everybody before his eye, is going to advocate the repeal of the county law.

### Institution Reports.

THE PROTESTANT INSTITUTION FOR DEAF-MUTES.

We have received the fifth annual report of the Protestant Institution for Deaf-mutes, which is located in the city of Montreal, Canada, for the year ending June 30, 1875. It is a tasty little pamphlet of forty pages, the printing of which was executed by boys who are pupils at the school, printing and carpenter work being the two trades taught to some of the boys, while in the summer season gardening is taught to others. One noticeable feature of the pamphlet is shown upon the fly-leaf of the report which displays the two hand or what is familiarly termed the double letter manual alphabet. Whether it is the alphabet used in common practice or not at the Montreal Institution we are not informed, but naturally infer that it is. If so, why it is adopted at that institution we are at a loss to determine as the one hand or single letter manual certainly possesses the advantage of being much more convenient, and besides can be formed by either of the hands should one of them be incapacitated by accident or other causes from performing the duty. The management of the institution is under the control of an efficient board of thirteen lay and twelve elective governors, which, together with others, constitutes a board of over forty managers. The school officers are the principal, Thomas Widd; the matron, Mrs. Widd; assistant teacher, Miss Clara Bulmer; teacher of drawing, Professor Duncan; teacher of printing, the principal, and teacher of carpentry, Gordon Redman. This school is still in its infantile struggles to which all similar institutions are subject during the first few years of their existence, but under the skillful charge of its principal and assistants, backed by the wise counsels of its efficient Board of Managers, is destined in the future to afford the educational advantages of which so many of our Canadian deaf-mute cousins have so long felt need. The managers express hearty satisfaction at the manner in which the principal and his assistants have discharged their duties. The number of pupils admitted the past year, twenty-six, of whom twenty-three remained till the end of the year, is a larger number than in previous years. The managers report their urgent need of a larger building and additional accommodations are insufficient to extend to all who want the benefits of the Institution. A new building which has been for some time under contemplation is not yet begun, owing to financial depression. It is, however, the intention of the managers at some suitable season, at no remote period, to canvass for subscription funds with which to erect and furnish the building. The school is maintained in part by subscriptions from the benevolent, partly by paying pupils and some by government appropriation. By reason of the aforesaid depression of finances and from other causes, there is a deficit in the revenue of \$955.98. At the end of the year the liabilities of the institution amounted to \$751.24. The board state with pleasure that the Quebec Government intends to increase the grant this year from \$1,000 to \$1,729. The report of the principal is able and replete with sound practical suggestions for bringing under instruction Canadian deaf-mutes. He points out the great difficulty in imparting to the deaf and dumb a proper knowledge of the English language; takes great pleasure in reporting the general good conduct, diligence and industry of the pupils during the year, and notes the great progress they have made in the acquisition of and their accuracy in using the English language.

The school inspector in his report of his examination of the pupils of the institution expresses satisfaction at the diligence and skill of the instructors, and also with the advancements attained by the pupils. It is evident that the institution is in very great need of a larger and better building for the accommodation of its work. We gather from the report that there is a large number of deaf-mutes, as we stated some time since, within the boundaries of the Province of Quebec, who are growing up to manhood and womanhood in total ignorance. This may result perhaps in part from the inability of parents to provide for their education. The principal recommends a thorough canvass of the country in order to discover and offer education to those who are not enjoying its advantages. We hope the day is not far distant when the dark side of enlightened civilization will be effectively annihilated forever.

### THE IOWA INSTITUTION.

We are in receipt of the eleventh Biennial report of the Iowa Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, for the years 1874 and 1875, Benjamin Talbot, M. A., Superintendent. From the report we gather many interesting facts concerning the institution, which is located at Council Bluffs. During the past two years the general health of the pupils has been good, and steady progress in their studies has been made. Order and decorum have marked the history of the school and not a complaint of improper treatment or neglect of duty on the part of officers, teachers and employers, has been made. The trustees recommend the addition of a west wing to the building in accordance with original plan of the institution. The present building with its 156 pupils and in all respects full, and there is no room left for any more admissions. In fact the building is already crowded to some respects, and has not sufficient school-rooms for the proper educational accommodation of the youth in attendance. The sleeping rooms are also crowded for lack of space. The trustees earnestly call upon the General Assembly of the State to appropriate the sum of \$65,000 for the erection of a suitably sized addition to the building to

meet the demands of present convenience and comfort, and provide for the admission of all in need of the same. The report of the trustees is very elaborate and calls for many improvements in and around the institution buildings and grounds. Evidently the institution has a live board of trustees, and one that is determined to do its duty toward the deaf-mutes of the State. The able and exhaustive report of the Superintendent shows that the increase of pupils at the institution has risen in the last five years from 91 to 158, averaging an addition of fully twenty pupils a year. The superintendent credits the pupils with having attained a fair average amount of progress in their studies. Twenty-two of the counties of Iowa have never been represented at the institution, and fifteen others have furnished but a single pupil each. The superintendent has reason to believe that there are in those counties mentioned and in other parts of the State many deaf-mutes who are not receiving the benefits of the institution. He calls upon all who have any deaf and dumb children, or who may know of any of suitable school age to spare no pains in securing their attendance at the institution. The officers and teachers, and the board of trustees are persons well fitted for their important duties, and have at heart the best interests and welfare of those placed under their care, and with a liberal appropriation from the State to enlarge the building and add to the comforts and conveniences of the pupils, it is to be hoped that more effective measures will be adopted to make education more general among the deaf-mutes of the State.

### THE KANSAS INSTITUTION.

The tenth annual report of the trustees and officers of the Deaf and Dumb Institution of this city has been laid upon our table. The report is full and comprehensive, and shows the institution to be in a most flourishing condition, and carrying out in a highly satisfactory manner the designs of the State.

The Trustees at present are, W. A. Shannon of Butler County, President; J. W. Rogers of Jefferson County, Vice-President; John Francis of Allen County, Secretary; Arch Shaw of Olathe, Treasurer; E. S. Stover of Morris County, and G. C. Lockwood of Saline County. The officers of the Institution are Lewis H. Jenkins principal, N. B. Dawson Clerk, Mrs. A. Jenkins Matron, Linnaeus Roberts, Richard T. Thompson, Geo. L. Wycoff, Mary E. Thompson and Jennie Burris instructors.

The sum appropriated by the Legislature last winter for its support was \$13,864.83, of which \$13,617.45 has been expended, including \$464.83 for sidewalk built by the city of Olathe.

The number of pupils in attendance the past year was eighty, and hence the cost per capita, including salaries of principal, teachers and employees has averaged only \$161.41.

There are thirty-five male pupils in the institution of whom the majority are of an age to engage in some useful occupation or trade, and the Trustees ask the Legislature to make an appropriation of one thousand dollars for the purpose of establishing a shoe and repair shop, and also a printing office. There is no doubt but that this appropriation would be attended with invaluable results, as in addition to rendering the institution partly self-supporting, the pupils would have the advantage of a good trade when starting in life for themselves.

Although the number of pupils is increased largely over last year, and with a prospect of a still further increase for the coming year, they ask an appropriation of only \$14,500.00 for current expenses, clothing of indigent pupils, school apparatus, &c. In consideration of the fact that over ninety persons now make their home within its walls this may be accepted as a very low estimate, and shows that the most rigid economy is practiced in every department.

The report is most satisfactory in every respect, and shows conclusively that of all our State institutions, none is more ably or economically conducted than this.

As is well known in this community the credit is due Prof. Jenkins his estimable lady. For years they strove quietly and persistently employed their time and talents in its interests until now it takes rank as one of the foremost institutions of the great west, if not of the Union.—*Olathe (Kansas) Mirror and News Letter.*

### The Centennial Convention of Deaf-mutes.

The Deaf-mute Literary Association has, we learn, in contemplation a plan to secure the attendance of a very large number of deaf-mutes upon the Centennial Exposition. In order to secure proper accommodations for these visitors, the association has applied to the authorities of the Deaf and Dumb Institution in this city for the privilege of lodging in this city for the privilege of lodging for a specified number of persons, without board. It is thought, and with reason, that the accommodation of such persons within the walls of the Institution will result in greater pleasure and profit to them than could be secured by distributing them among the hotels and ordinary lodging houses. The authorities have the application under advisement, and it is to be hoped that they may be disposed to make a favorable disposition of the same. Anything which can be made to add to the enjoyment of this unfortunate class of persons is always to be desired, and there is no doubt that the occasion of the Centennial will prove as interesting to them as to any. We hope the request will be granted.—*Philadelphia North American*, Jan. 24, 1876.

THE WORLD ALMANAC.—We have received a copy of the World Almanac for 1876. It is very convenient for reference, contains a great amount of valuable information, and should be in the possession of every business man and politician. Send 25 cents to the World office, 35 Park Row, New York.

### Circular.

ATTENTION, DEAF-MUTES!

The Eleventh Biennial Convention of the New England Gallaudet Association of Deaf-mutes will be held in Salem, Mass., Feb. 22d, 23d, (and probably the 24th), 1876.

The President, Wm. B. Swett, will deliver an interesting address relating to the affairs of the association, including information regarding the establishment of the proposed "Industrial Home for Deaf-mutes."

Rev. Thomas Gallaudet and prominent deaf-mutes from abroad are expected to be present and take part in the exercises.

An efficient interpreter will be present for the benefit of the hearing people present. The meetings of the association will be held in the Tabernacle Vestry, corner of Federal and Washington streets.

### PROGRAMME.

Tuesday, Feb. 22d.

10 A. M.—The convention will be called to order, and the President will explain the necessity of making some amendments to the constitution; the need of some reform in the management of the society, and how the plan of the Industrial Home can be most effectively carried out. Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, General Manager of the "Church Mission to Deaf-Mutes of New York," and others will also give their views of the object.

2 P. M.—The election of officers will take place, and the other society business for the ensuing year will be commenced.

7 P. M.—A grand social re-union will take place at the Essex House, with speeches, toasts, sentiments and other amusements in honor of WASHINGTON, GALLAUDET and CLERC.

Wednesday, Feb. 23d.

The forenoon, beginning at ten o'clock, will be devoted to any unfinished business; short addresses on various matters of interest to deaf-mutes, &c.

During the afternoon, all can enjoy themselves as they please, visiting the numerous places of interest in the vicinity.

7 P. M.—Interesting religious exercises are expected to take place, in which Rev. Thomas Gallaudet and other hearing persons and deaf-mutes will join. A general invitation is extended to all ministers, and those connected with the churches of Salem to be present.

A cordial invitation is extended to all teachers at Hartford, New York and other institutions, and it is earnestly desired that all who can possibly come will be present, and contribute to the interest of the occasion. All deaf-mutes are also invited to come, and a large attendance is hoped for.

Those in attendance will have an opportunity to visit Peabody Academy of Science, and the Salem Museum free of charge; they can also see much to interest them in the historic old houses still standing, rendered famous in connection with Salem Witchcraft. An opportunity will also be given to visit Marblehead, a queer old town, famous in the Revolutionary War. (Fare to and back, 20 cents.)

It is confidentially expected that all who come will enjoy themselves and that none will be disappointed.

Arrangements have been made with the Essex House, the best hotel in the city, a short distance from the Eastern R. R. Station, to accommodate all they can at two dollars per day. It is desired to have as many at one hotel as possible, for convenience and pleasure. It is very much regretted that no arrangement can be made with the railroad for free return tickets as has formerly been the case.

The rooms of the Salem Society of Deaf-mutes, No. 246 1-2 Essex St., will be open when the convention is not in session, and all are cordially invited to avail themselves of the privileges.

Cars leave Boston for Salem at nearly all hours of the day; fare, fifty cents each way. Parties reaching Boston and desiring further information, can obtain it at room 7, No. 465 Washington St.

Any further information will be cheerfully given by addressing

WM. B. SWETT,  
Marblehead, Mass.

### "Sacred Silence."

THE DEAF-MUTES' SERVICE AT ST. STEPHEN'S P. E. CHURCH, TENTH STREET, ABOVE CHESTNUT.—AN ACCOUNT OF THE MISSION FOR DEAF-MUTES.

A stranger stepping into St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, about three o'clock on Sunday afternoon, would be led to think that that stronghold of evangelicism had been given over to a new sect of ritualists, devoted to the culture of genuflections and genuflections. He would perceive a congregation of from forty to one hundred gazing intently at the moving hands of the officiant, and at the proper places rising or kneeling, and responding with gestures likewise. But not a sound would he hear, near as he might venture to draw.

Inquiry of the gentlemanly sexton would elicit the fact that officiant and congregation were alike deaf, and the ceremony was the service conducted weekly at half-past two P. M. by the Philadelphia Deaf-mute Mission, now attached to St. Stephen's Church. Should the visitor remain to the close he would see many of those present pass to the Sunday school building in the rear of the church, where a Bible class is held, and if his interest were sufficiently aroused, or if, being a good churchman, he desired to take part in an early and quiet celebration of the Holy Communion, he would be gratified by coming to the same church at nine A. M. on the third Sunday of the month, when he would find a surprised clergyman present instead of the lay reader who officiates weekly, and a small but devout gathering of deaf-mute communicants.

These gatherings for divine worship and religious instruction of a class who

are debarred from participating in the privileges conferred by hearing have been maintained in Philadelphia for fifteen years, in various places, and with more or less regularity. Originated by Rev. T. Gallaudet, D. D., rector of St. Ann's Church for Deaf-mutes, New York, who used to come down occasionally for a service here, they have been sustained by him or under his care ever since. For a few years they were held at Calvary Church, during the rectorship of Rev. Mr. Eagan and Rev. Dr. Clerc, both of whom were skilled in the language of signs, but when the latter became warden of the Burd Asylum they were transferred to St. Stephen's Church, and the place left vacant by Dr. Clerc's removal to Burlington College, N. J., has been occupied for the last year by Mr. Henry Winter Syllé, of the United States mint, previously a professor in the New York Deaf-mute Institution, and who, although deaf from an early age, is a regular graduate of Yale, and has been admitted a candidate for orders in the Episcopal Church.

It is worthy of notice that the forefathers of Dr. Gallaudet and Clerc were associated in the establishment of the first school for the deaf in America, that at Hartford, Conn., in which stand monuments erected in their honor by the contributions of the deaf-mutes of the whole country. To return to our city, a regular monthly visit is received from either Dr. Clerc, Dr. Gallaudet or Rev. John Chamberlain, assistants to the latter in the "Church Mission to Deaf-mutes," an incorporated body, which has just passed its second anniversary, having been established to strengthen and extend the work in other places, commenced by Dr. Gallaudet, during such periods as he could take from his parish cares in New York.

The church mission also maintains a home for aged and infirm deaf-mutes where those who through age or infirmity and lack of means are incapable of providing for themselves, can find a resting place under the care of persons with whom they can communicate freely, and who in particular can administer to their spiritual consolation. The church mission is managed by Episcopalians, but its home is open to all of whatever faith or locality.

In addition to the religious services maintained in Philadelphia a literary association has been fostered by the mission, and is now in a flourishing condition, holding weekly meetings in St. Stephen's Sunday school room. Professor Burnside, of the Deaf-mute Institution, is to lecture before next Thursday evening, when Rev. Dr. Gallaudet is also expected to be present. The reverend gentleman will conduct the services at 9 A. M. and 2:30 P. M. on Sunday. The association is making arrangements to enable deaf-mutes from the country at large to visit the Centennial next summer, when, also the ordination of Mr. Syllé is expected to take place—the first instance of a deaf person entering the ministry in our church, and it is hoped that the directors of the institution will encourage and assist the undertaking.—*Philadelphia Paper*, Jan. 14, 1876.

### Centennial Stamps.

Not currency but postage stamps. Everything is to be Centennial now, so we are to have Centennial Stamps on stamped envelopes, for which Postmaster-General Jewell has adopted a design for the embossed stamp. The stamp is represented by a shield, bearing at the top in a scroll the words "U. S. Postage," beneath which is a representation of a mounted post-boy, on a groundwork of telegraph poles and wires; beneath this is an engine and a postal car, and at the bottom of the shield, within a scroll, are the words "three cents." The dates 1776 and 1876 are at the top and bottom of the shield respectively. These envelopes will be manufactured and sold in the Government Building on the Centennial grounds, and will be furnished under the present contract for stamped envelopes without additional cost.

The Jefferson City Tribune says that "During leap year the girl who counts all the gray horses she sees, until she has got up to a hundred, will be married within a year to the first gentleman with whom she shakes hands after counting the one hundredth horse. Every girl in the city carries a memorandum book that she may be sure to keep a correct record. One has already twenty-six, another eleven, and another who only began yesterday has seven. If somebody would bring a drove of a hundred gray horses to town to-day, what a shaking of hands would take place to-morrow!"

An exchange perpetrates the following: "Are you the editor-man?" "Yes, sonny—what can I do for you?" "Well, pa wants to know why you didn't put his fat hog in the paper last week." "Fat hog—fat hog—what fat hog?" "Why, the one pa killed that weighed seven hundred pounds; didn't you see it?" "See it? No, I never heard of it until this moment." "Well, pa says he isn't going to patronize an editor who doesn't send him a paper any longer." Exit.

—There must be something in a name, for the Fulton Times says: "With reference to the fact that Betsey Ann Greenfield, of Orwell, has been arrested for complicity in the murder of her daughter-in-law, we don't believe she will be convicted because we don't believe that any woman with the good old-fashioned name of Betsey Ann ever committed any crime."

Silence that Terrible Enemy of Life, a bad cough, with HALE'S HONEY OF HOREHOUND AND TAR, otherwise the cough may silence you.

Pike's Toothache Drops cure in one minute.

### Sunday School Institute in Mexico.

According to notice this was held last week on Tuesday in the Methodist church, and on Wednesday in the Presbyterian church. Taken altogether, the attendance and interest were fine. We believe the occasion will be counted the very best of the kind ever held in this part of the county, and the Sunday School work here cannot fail to receive a new impetus from it.

Rev. J. S. Ostrander, the conductor, proved himself a master man in this kind of work. He is a very easy and pleasant speaker, and his remarks and lectures were listened to with great interest. Most of the subjects in the carefully prepared programme, were discussed, though not all in the order in which they were printed. After devotional exercises, the conductor gave timely suggestions as to the benefits of the institute.

To the question, What are the objects of the Sunday School? it was answered—the conversion of the soul, and the building up in righteousness through the study of God's word: that these objects should ever be in the minds of the teachers.

Organic and careful methods in the management of Sunday Schools were considered of great importance. The order of exercises should not be too complicated, nor should too much time be occupied in opening exercises. The general exercises following the lesson should be either on the lesson or have reference to it. If a stranger or visitor should make an address, it should also have reference to the lesson, nor should he be invited to speak without the caution, if need be, to be brief.

The proper use of the lesson leaves was declared to be to follow their directions in the preparation of the lesson. The golden text and the text of the lesson should be committed to memory, or if it be too long, as in some cases, then the part that is needed. Answers to the questions should be learned as well as the outline, and the home readings should be observed.

The art of questioning was very ably discussed by the conductor in an easy conversational lecture, while still sitting in his chair. Questions should be so put as to quicken memory; to stimulate thought; to excite interest. Questions should be put with animation.

How to win and hold attention received special discussion, both by written opinions handed in by a goodly number and also by oral address. It was said the teacher secure his class by personal endeavor; look after any who may be absent; pay attention to the class away from the school; be regular and prompt in attendance; be prepared on the lesson; be interested himself; manifest a desire to do his class good; be enthusiastic in his work; pay special attention to the spiritual and practical parts of the lesson; use illustrations gathered from everyday experiences, from nature, from incidents, from books; excite the scholars' curiosity so that they will ask questions; encourage by words of praise; let no time be lost or spent in a trifling manner; be careful about scolding.

The use of the blackboard was illustrated in a very happy manner by the conductor, by drawing a partial map of Palestine; a sketch of the heavenly mansions, the halls to which were shown to be the Cross of Christ; and in the explanation of Scripture lessons in the use of the blackboard. The lecturer said that five notes were to be observed in using the blackboard in Sunday Schools: Do not make it a hobby; do not be too elaborate; do not make the exercise too long; do not use caricatures; do not make an exhibition of it.

On Tuesday evening, also was given an exercise in Bible Reading: the subject being the power of God's Word. We think all were impressed that pastors might to great advantage frequently put such an exercise in place of a formal sermon. Persons in the congregation read such passages as were called for by the leader, who made running remarks on their reference to the subject.

Teachers' meetings were considered invaluable helps to success in teaching. They should be devoid of formality, and accompanied with great sociality, while a thorough religious spirit should pervade them. Careful study of the lesson should be the prime object of the meeting, while various other important matters may, as required, receive attention in them.

It was suggested that a general attendance in Sunday School might be secured by—personal application to children and parents; making the exercises interesting; by showing friendliness and cultivating sociality; by preaching on the subject.

The relation of the church to the school was duly considered. The school is a department of the church, and should be under the control of it. The church should consider itself parental; should assist in gathering in scholars; should encourage its work; pray for its success; aid by its means in the supply of books and requisites; should supply the teachers; encourage the study of the lesson; should attend the school; should establish schools in destitute localities.

The lecture by Mr. Ostrander on Wednesday evening, on "Scenes in the Orient" was intensely interesting, and was full of valuable instruction. With thirty persons dressed in the costumes of the East and with various utensils, instruments of music, etc., the speaker was enabled to illustrate many things in the Bible in the most vivid manner. We have not room to specify. Thus ran the current of thought and study during Mr. Ostrander's sojourn among us. We are assured that his visit and instructions were highly appreciated, and that they will long be remembered with a great deal of pleasure.

—Mr. and Mrs. Nehemiah Webb, of this village, celebrated the 50th anniversary of their wedding day on Tuesday of this week.

### Transfer Pictures.

The decorations on carriages, buggies, sleighs, furniture, boxes, &c., and other painted surfaces, often show the most delicate artistic skill, and the question arises, how are such views and ornaments placed there without great expense? The cheapest articles are frequently covered with bits of landscape or floral decorations that could not be painted by hand without increasing the value of the articles. The secret is, these pictures are transferred to the articles adorned by a process called "Decalcomanie." When the method was first discovered high prices were charged for the transfer pictures, and also for teaching the art, so that few could afford to purchase. Recently, however, dealers have reduced the rates so that now these pictures may be obtained at comparatively low cost. J. L. Patten & Co., 162 William Street, New York, are large dealers in these goods. For the small sum of ten cents they will send complete instructions, with catalogue and ten specimen pictures, to any one who wishes to learn this beautiful art.

### Important to the Legal Fraternity.

The Assembly has passed the bill relative to writs of error. The provisions are thus summarized by the Syracuse Courier: The bill provides that no writ of error shall stay or delay the execution of judgment or of sentence unless it shall be allowed by a justice of the Supreme Court of the judicial department where the conviction shall have been made, upon five days' notice in writing to the district attorney of the county where the conviction shall have been had, and unless such writ of error shall contain an express direction that it is to operate as a stay of proceedings on the judgment upon which the writ shall be brought.

### Serious Accident.

On Monday morning of this week an accident occurred in the woods near New Centerville by which it is thought Willis Wade son of Wm. Wade, will lose his life. He, in company with several others, was out sawing wood, while near by some one was felling trees. One of these trees started in the opposite direction from what was expected and fell towards young Wade, who in great alarm, ran in one direction and then not knowing what to do, ran back again. One huge limb struck his leg and crushed the bones next to his ankle. He was knocked down and injured internally. Dr. Caldwell was summoned and found his patient in an insensible condition and bleeding freely at the mouth. He set the broken and mutilated member and left him still unconscious. On Tuesday the Doctor called again and found the sufferer in a failing condition and still unable to recognize any one, with a fluttering pulse and still raising blood from the lungs. He thinks the young man cannot long survive.—*Pulaski Democrat.*

### Sudden Death of W. H. Wales, of Scriba.

Again we are called upon to announce the death of one of the honest and staunch men of the county, that of Mr. William H. Wales, which occurred at his residence in the town of Scriba this morning after a short illness. Last Saturday Mr. Wales was in the city appearing as well and cheerful as usual, but Monday night he was taken with inflammation of the bowels and died this morning at half past six o'clock. For several years Mr. Wales was a merchant in this city and was noted for his honesty and fair dealing.

Failing health warned him that he required out door work and he retired to his farm in Scriba, where he lived to the time of his death. He was public spirited, universally respected, and his death will be deplored by all who knew him. He took an active interest in everything that concerned his town, county, State and country, and was zealous in the promotion of each. He leaves a wife, two sons and two daughters. He was one of the founders of the Oswego County Savings Bank, and was from its organization one of the trustees. He was sixty-three years old.—*Osw. Palladium, Wednesday.*

Mr. Wales was brother of Mrs. C. E. Humphries, of this village. His funeral, which took place on Friday last, was very largely attended. While his remains were being deposited in the grave, many of his townsmen were affected to tears. They felt that they had lost a genial neighbor and a true friend.

—In the case of Florence M. Gibbs against the continental insurance company at Oswego, the jury rendered a verdict of \$2,800 for plaintiff. The amount claimed under the policy was \$3,200.

—Last Sunday morning, nine persons joined the M. E. church, of this village, in full connection. The missionary collection, which was taken up on the same morning, amounted to \$187.25.

—Be friendly. Strangers are frequently driven away from churches, by the freezing attitude of the people, and which is too often mistaken for etiquette. It has no business in the house of God.—*Illion Citizen.*

—All kinds of reports are afloat concerning the prevalence of scarlet fever in this place. We can assure our readers that there is only one case of scarlet fever in this village, and that is of a very mild type.

—A vagabond named Scouton, who amused himself by pouring kerosene oil on the head of a boy named Bisbee and then setting fire to it, near Central Square, has been sent to Pulaski jail for four months.

—Great snow storm this (Wednesday) morning.



## A Interesting Letter.

MR. EDITOR—Dear Sir: One day this week we received a letter from the father of one of our deaf-mute pupils, which contained a surprise in the shape of a New Year's present of a five dollar greenback. The following is a copy of the letter, with the writer's and recipient's names omitted:

To Prof. —: I hope you had a happy New Year, and wish that you may have many similar ones, and that you will do all that you can to improve your son's education. I am well pleased with the rapidity with which he has improved during the last few months, and hope he will get along as nicely this year. Yours respectfully,

This shows an appreciation of our efforts to benefit deaf-mutes in every way we can. The boy referred to is one of the many "wild" boys that entered school only a year ago; one, too, who often taxed our patience, etc., to a severe tension. He (as well as the others) has become quiet ("tame" as the mutes call it), and obedient. In fact, a real good boy in school, with his spirit unbroken. Children should be taught to obey, but their spirit should not be broken in order to gain obedience, as a child with a broken spirit will often make a more worthless scholar and citizen than a wayward one. Obedience should come of duty and love, rather than from excessive fear of punishment.

Mr. — feels more hopeful than he did a while back, when he said to us, "Do you think you can ever do anything with him?" We replied, "Yes; give time and we will make a good boy of him, if not a good scholar also."

It often happens that wild (not vicious or mean) children make the best scholars and citizens, as their wildness is frequently caused by a vigorous and healthy physical system and an independent mind, both of which are hard to bring down to the rules of school discipline; while children who are sickly and what is called "too good" (i) often lack those essential necessary for great attainments, perfect character and good citizens, and more frequently in the end they become worse than the former class. Perhaps these two extreme cases are exceptions and not the rule.

However, it is very slow and tedious work to instruct and develop the minds and assist in the forming of the characters of deaf-mutes be they "wild" or "tame"; far more even than those of hearing children; because no matter how old they may be on entering school, we have to begin with them where mothers commence with their little hearing children. We too often have not only to be a teacher, but also something of a mother in teaching them what their mothers did not, or could not, about personal habits and very, very small things, that hearing children two and three years old know all about. And by the time they have been under school instruction two or three years they are not much farther along, if any, in knowledge, if we except penmanship, than children who have the use of all their faculties but who have never been to school.

This may look discouraging to others, but not to us, especially when we remember the blank mental state of deaf-mutes on entering school, and the great breadth of ground we have to traverse and so often go over again in order to get even a start.

Taking size and age as a guide, many people conclude that a deaf-mute ten or twelve years old knows nearly as much (some suppose they know even more) than hearing children of the same size and age. Perhaps so far as knowing that fire burns, ice feels unpleasant to sit on, etc., they do; but by what terms these strange sensations are called they are as ignorant as a child is of astronomy. Hence the vast amount of manual labor, repetition, patience, etc., it requires to fill up not only the blank minds of deaf-mutes but also the great moral void in their hearts. Is it not expecting too much of us to suppose that we can make finished scholars of such ignorant children in five or ten years, or even if the time were twice as long as it is? While oral children of the same age have from five to ten years' learning the start of deaf-mutes, and then go to school many years longer than the deaf and dumb and then be prepared to enter only the lowest grade in college, where they (oral children) study several years more ere they finish their school education—and even then they are only started so as to travel on the road of learning alone; and only a small ratio of hearing children, with all their advantages over deaf-mutes, ever attain to distinction or become independent students. If such vast expenditure of time and money is necessary to start hearing children on the road of learning and is a moral obligation—not a charity—that the community owe and must pay to the hearing children, then why does not the same moral obligation also apply to deaf-mutes? If education is a moral obligation then why is it not just as great, if not greater, to the deaf-mute than to hearing children? Why throw over the education of the deaf and dumb the cloak of charity to hide your moral obligation? Is not the inability to hear and speak humiliating enough? If so, why offer them an education under the cloak of charity? Why not allow them to draw openly and manfully upon their moral and legal obligation the same as oral children do for their education?

By what moral right can we restrict or limit their education any more than we can that of oral children? Where is the justice of limiting their education to so few years and then expect them to support themselves, enjoy life and be happy with so scant an education?

Where is the moral or even constitutional right to limit the education of these children to any time under only, as no school law says "for oral children only"? Cannot parents of deaf-mutes demand instruction for their unfortunate children of the school officers, where they live or within a reasonable distance, from the

time they are old enough to go to school until they are of age? In case of refusal by the school officers on the plea that they have no right to provide for or receive such applicants when the school law does not say they shall not, and the school taxes and funds are for the benefit and education of all children that are capable of receiving instruction, would they not be liable to a suit for not providing for or refusing to receive such applicants?

Let us take courage for the signs of the times are auspicious. The opinions of experienced superintendents and teachers of deaf-mutes all over the country now favor more schools, smaller classes and longer pupils. And there are boards of education and school trustees whose the moral and legal right—not charitable claim—the deaf and dumb have to the common school fund irrespective of the State charity (i). In fact, parents of mutes can scorn or refuse to permit instruction under the mantle of charity, and demand and obtain education for their deaf children on precisely the same grounds as they do for their hearing children. One is just as much a necessity as the other.

All hail to the Boards of Education of Pittsburgh, Chicago, and Cincinnati, who saw the justice of such claims and provided for their deaf-mute wards, as this is as truly one department of the school system as is that of grammar, or German, or music.

We are glad we are not alone in this belief of the just claims of deaf-mutes. We know of one of the superintendents who has gone so far in this direction as to write to the State Superintendent of Public Schools of his State, asking him to visit and examine the "Institution for the Education of Deaf-mutes," as it was a branch or department of the regular common school system, and therefore came under his supervision.

We learn from a Colorado paper that upon the recommendation of the Governor, etc., the "Colorado Deaf-mute Institute" is now "supported the same as our common schools, viz, by direct taxation." Singular that this territory should be the first to recognize and allow this claim of deaf-mutes.

In his report, the Commissioner of Education, at Washington, in speaking of deaf-mute schools, says: "These institutions are no more to be classed as charities than any other established for educational purposes."

Jan. 19, 1876.

P. S. Since writing the above the January number of the *American Annals for the Deaf and Dumb*—an old and reliable journal of the profession—has come to hand, in which we see that two experienced teachers in two of the oldest deaf-mute institutions in America, have written long and able articles on more schools, smaller classes, longer pupils, etc., which encourages us to go forward and battle more bravely for the cause of those whose misfortune we partly share, and with whom we have suffered and are still afflicted from a limited education under the State charity schools. We hope to see, ere long, the maintenance of these schools taken from under the guise of charity and supported as they should be, by the regular school tax, which will not increase the tax burden, as the appropriations come from the people now, when they should be added to the school fund first, and thus relieve them from depending upon the charitable disposition of the State legislatures.

Your obedient servant,

Troy Notes.

Deaf-mutes and other friends from Troy and surrounding vicinity, about twenty-five in number, went, by invitation, to the house of Mrs. Schutt, mother of Miss Sarah Schutt, on Hosack street, to spend Christmas evening. A very social time was passed in pleasant games and other entertaining amusements. Christmas stories were narrated and a fine tableaux was beautifully acted by Mrs. Atkins, of Lansingburgh, N. Y., representing Pocahontas interposing for the life of Capt. John Smith. Mrs. Atkins performed her part creditably to the entertainment of her audience.

The company was then invited to march in double file to the tables which were bountifully spread with suitable refreshments. There was an abundance for all, and the good things disappeared as if by magic—like the morning dew. Later in the evening, the company one by one or by groups retired to their homes, expressing many thanks at the kind treatment and hospitality of Mrs. Schutt and her two daughters. We shall long remember with pleasure the night of December 25th, 1875.

Among those present were Mrs. Gould and daughter; Mrs. Fosmire and her son; Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman, of Lansingburgh; Miss Totles, of Albany; Mrs. Getting, of Waterford, N. Y.; Messrs. C. O. Upham, of Watertown, N. Y., and John Saxton and others, of Troy.

On New Year's afternoon Mrs. Getting gave a party to her friends. It was an occasion of profit and enjoyment. The writer of this article not having been present, is unable to describe the entertainment.

A meeting after an adjournment of five weeks of the Troy Deaf-mute Literary Club was held on the evening of Jan. 15th. The following question was then debated: "Resolved, That newspapers are more beneficial to the acquisition of knowledge than books." James Ritter argued to sustain the resolution; he was followed by Hiram Brown for the negative. A vote of the house decided in favor of the negative.

Rev. Mr. Berry, who was present, was warmly greeted. He made a few remarks to the members in regard to the debate, and also gave a short history of the introduction, many years ago, of the Christian religion into the province of Mexico. He attended the recent convocation

of the Episcopal clergy of the Diocese in Albany, and held a service for deaf-mutes at St. Paul's Free Chapel, in Troy. Mr. H. A. Rumrill, of Syracuse, N. Y., who has been on a visit of a few days in New York to see his old friends, stopped at Troy on his way home to make a call on his friend Tom Collins from whom he received a very cordial greeting. Mr. Rumrill was looking hale and hearty. His friends here were much pleased to meet him again.

Mr. John Saxton, after spending his holiday vacation with his parents and friends, has returned to Washington, D. C., to pursue his course of studies at the National Deaf-mute College.

Jan. 19, 1876.

Indiana Notes.

DEAR JOURNAL—I have neglected to keep your readers informed of the news here regularly as I promised I would, but no one that knows me will be surprised at this breach of promise.

Cold weather has returned again and we are shivering in our thin clothes. It has been storming for nearly a week, but there is not over an inch of snow on the ground at present. We have had no sleighing yet. The mercury in the thermometer has been below zero but once and then but a few degrees, and this severe weather lasted but two days.

The man who declared that to-day, the 14th, would be the coldest day of the season, is the biggest liar on record. The mercury was 18° above zero at 5:30 A. M. and 20° at sunrise. We are not prepared to endure such cold weather as Hotteter predicted. The weather this season thus far has, for the most part, been very pleasant, and there has been very little sickness among the pupils—not even serious cases of colds. The doctors pronounce this to be the healthiest year for many years.

The carpenters, builders and plasterers are the busiest and most thriving business men in the city this season. They are continually at work day after day building as though there was no difference between the weather of winter and summer. Less than three months ago there was on Mr. S. J. Vail's lot but one small one-story brick house, which was almost hidden from view by beautiful trees and shrubbery, which he had planted either for fruit-bearing or ornament. Now there stands eleven two-story, frame houses on it with a beautiful macadamized street thirty feet wide running through the center of it. It is a great improvement to that part of the city.

William Peerman, a deaf-mute from Texas, and a printer, paid the institution a visit last night. He wore a stove-pipe hat that was horribly mashed. On asking him the cause of it, he replied that the streets were rather poorly illuminated and therefore he could not see well enough to keep his head erect, and so his hat would fall off his head at nearly every step. He began to curse us for such dark streets, when the writer stopped him and told him that the gas company had been using the wrong materials for gas and that they would use the right ones as soon as they could get them. On being asked by him what was wrong, I responded that he had been using bituminous coal instead of anthracite, but that they had just contracted with Mr. Robert McKim, of Madison, Indiana, for \$75,000 worth of anthracite coal, and as soon as it arrived there would be no occasion for him to curse about dark streets any more.

The *Annals* for January has been received. It contains one article which has received more favorable comment by many of the teachers here than any other article in any former number. We are of the opinion that there has not been another article on so important a subject as that written by Prof. Pettengill on the "Natural Method of Teaching Language in the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb." Although there is nothing in it that would suggest any new ideas in the way of teaching; still it is of prime importance and deserves our attention and consideration. I have been employing that method in teaching my pupils ever since I first entered the profession and the results are more satisfactory than I could have anticipated. Those who are now in the High Class, were my first pupils seven years ago. I had about thirty pupils then. Some, for various reasons, could not stay to complete their course in even the primary department, but most of them graduated from that department. There is only one of those thirty, who is still in the fourth class.

The editor of the *Annals* seems to be in the attitude of calling every teacher's attention to the importance of writing what they think is wanted in an institution for the deaf. He recommends every one and especially teachers of the deaf and dumb, to write what they think is wanted for the deaf, and he declares that those who dare not speak from fear of men, neglect their duty. I fully agree with him. In his consideration of the subject, Prof. Pettengill hits the point in every way. He deserves the thanks of all. A person who has been a scholar and afterwards a teacher, being constantly in intimate contact with the deaf and dumb for a long period, cannot fail to know what is wanted in our institutions. What harm would it do for any one to say that it is not good for a blind man to attempt to lead another blind man home through a dense forest which is miles through? Any artificial method of teaching language to the deaf and dumb is like the blind leading the blind. What is most needed for the welfare of the deaf, is that they should have either the same text books that hearing children have or that their library and text books for the whole course should be written for their exclusive use.

A CORRESPONDENT.  
Indianapolis, Dec. 30th, 1875.

—Girls, get your cutters ready.

## Minor Topics.

The city of New York has 127 hotels and 12,000 boarding houses.

The Auditor of Kentucky reports the population of the State to be 1,666,525.

Mr. Springer, of Illinois, proposes to open West Point to all young men, up to the full educational capacity of the academy, who are willing to pay for instruction.

A bill has been introduced in the Senate by Mr. Carpenter authorizing the Loan Commissioners of each county to make assignments of mortgages for monies loaned by them.

Gov. Bross, of Chicago, thinks that by the 4th of July, 1876, Chicago will contain at least three millions of people, "and I would sooner say four millions than any less than three millions."

The commission appointed to examine works of French artists for exhibition at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition have completed their labors, having selected 670 pictures.

The London Standard says that several foreign powers are directing their attention to the practicability of establishing telegraph stations in mid-ocean, by which messages can be sent from any part of the sea along the line of the cable to the terminable points on shore, and vice versa.

The shipping merchants of New York port have prepared a petition to Congress asking for the repeal of the shipping act of June, 1872. They say that it has failed in its object, and has been administered in New York in an arbitrary manner, which has proved disastrous to American shipping.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean says that there is an old threadbare, snuff-colored, thin-necked, spindle-shanked, pepper-and-salt, weazened, rum-drinking fossil, hidden away somewhere in Washington, who has written more Congressional speeches than all the members of the present House put together.

The Hon. James Knox, LL. D., of Knoxville, Knox County, Ill., has given \$10,000 to Hamilton College to be used for completing the Maynard Professorship of Law, History, Civil and Political Economy. Judge Knox gave the College \$10,000 three years ago for the endowment and increase of the Knox Hall of Natural History.

The House Appropriations Committee Thursday reported in favor of cutting down the President's salary to \$25,000, from and after 1877. The compensation for the Speaker of the House is reduced to \$7,500, the reduction taking place only in the portion of his salary as Congressman, his allowance of \$3,000 per annum for services in the chair being untouched. The salary of Vice-President is left untouched, at \$8,000. The compensation of the Cabinet is left untouched, as is also that of the Judges of the Court of Claims.

Our republic commenced in 1776, 100 years ago, with thirteen States and 815,615 square miles of territory, which was occupied by about 3,000,000 of civilized human beings. It has now a population of 43,000,000, who occupy thirty-seven States and nine Territories, which embrace over 3,000,000 of square miles. It has 65,000 miles of railroads, more than sufficient to reach twice and a half round the globe. The value of its annual agricultural productions is \$2,500,000,000, and its gold mines are capable of producing \$70,000,000 a year. It has over 1,000 cotton factories, 580 daily newspapers, 4,300 weeklies, and 625 monthly publications.—*New York Herald*.

Professor Swing, of Chicago, has uttered many words of wisdom, but he was particularly happy the other Sunday when preaching a sermon to young men. He gave his hearers this excellent theory of life: "Throw down the god money from its pedestal, trample that senseless idol under foot, set up all the higher ideals, a neat home, vines of one's own planting, a few books full of the inspiration of genius, a few friends worthy of being loved and able to love in return, a hundred pleasures that bring no pestilence, a devotion to the right that will never swerve, a simple religion empty of all bigotry, full of faith and love, and to such a philosophy earth will give up what it knows."

## Horrible Murder.

Saturday afternoon a resident of Greenport, L. I., found the head of a man which had been severed from the body, lying between a pile of lumber and a fence in English's ship yard, on Wilton street. He reported the matter to the police, and the head, which appeared as though life had not been extinct more than twenty-four hours, was conveyed to the station house where it was subsequently identified as that of a man named W. W. Simmons, of Derby, Conn., who had been missing since Thursday night. Simmons was a sober and industrious man, and worked in a wagon manufactory in Williamsburg. From the proximity of the head to the river, it was thought the body had been thrown into the water. Inquiries were made at places where Simmons was in the habit of visiting, but no person acknowledged having seen him since Saturday night.

Among those with whom the murdered man was most intimate, and to whom the officers looked for the most authentic information was Victor Kretz, who was known also by the name of Andrea Fuchs. He was a helper in the same shop as Simmons, and worked by his side, and was also believed to be an intimate friend of the deceased. He appeared to be uneasy under the questioning of the police, and pretended to speak very poor English. He told of Simmons being in the habit of visiting some female friends in Green Point, but, on making inquiries, this was found to be untrue, and was told by Kretz to mislead the police. Kretz was detained in the police office two or three hours, and was anxious to get away, stating that he was afraid he was to be locked up as a witness. The detectives did not think Kretz knew anything about the murder, and he was allowed to go home.

Among others interviewed about the murder were the watchmen on the docks. One was found who said he saw a man answering to the description of Kretz down near the dock, Saturday morning, and was quite positive about his identity. The detectives then supposed, if Kretz was not the guilty man, he knew something about the murder, and went to his house, 98 North-third street, and arrested him. On his way to the station house, he purposely cut his hand. It bled freely and he kept rubbing it on his pants. When this was observed, an examination of his clothing was made, which showed a large spot of dried blood on his pants. The detectives then visited his house again, and found a trunk, locked and nailed together so tightly that it was opened with great difficulty.

In this they found the packed arms and legs of the murdered victim, and in a boiler they found the trunk of the body, skinned and cut up. The entrails had been removed and quicklime put inside so as to cause speedy decomposition. There had been a pool of blood on the floor but efforts had been made to obliterate it by scraping until the boards were almost white. Upon the dress of Mrs. Kretz, which had just been washed, were stains of blood. She said she scraped the floor at the request of her husband; that Simmons called at the house on Thursday night, and they all had a drink together, Simmons' drinks being made stronger than those of the others, and that when he was stupefied with liquor, Kretz took a hatchet and chopped his head off, the act being witnessed by his little step-daughter.

Mrs. Kretz said that she herself was then up stairs. When Kretz heard that the body was discovered he admitted his guilt and said he had done it because he had found the victim in criminal intercourse with his wife, but this Mrs. Kretz denies. The murder was no doubt committed for robbery, as Simmons was always known to have money on his person. The prisoner was also found in possession of Simmons' watch, and the little girl says her father took three dollars and some cents from the pockets of the murdered man. Mrs. Kretz was taken to the station house and committed to a separate cell. The prisoner, who says his real name is Kretz, is an Alsatian by birth and speaks both French and German. He is about 40 years of age, stoutly built and has a forbidding aspect.

NEW YORK, January 31.—Kretz, the Greenpoint murderer, seems to have combined the motives of robbery, jealousy and a desire to succeed to his victim's place in the workshop where both the men were employed. Mrs. Kretz's little daughter, who witnessed the tragedy, says her mother had become stupidly drunk and was put to bed before any violence was offered to Simmons. The latter was also drunk and unconscious when killed. Both the woman and the little girl state that when they arose the next morning after the murder, Kretz went methodically about cutting up the body, himself and wife at the same time keeping up their debauch.

The body was so thoroughly cut up and packed in tin pails and kettles that when portions were first discovered by the police before Kretz was suspected and his arrest determined on, that the officers supposed the flesh to be pork, and so reported at the police station; but a more thorough examination discovered the tools used in the bloody work, and also a large portion of the human trunk.

The Board of State Prison Inspectors held a meeting in Albany and resolved that "the Board of Inspectors of State Prisons earnestly desire, and deem it expedient and proper, that a full and searching investigation should be made by some proper authority into the management of the State prisons, and also the Asylum for Insane Convicts at Auburn."

—The Utica Observer says: The New York Midland has reduced its payroll considerably for the winter, in order to keep the expenses within its earnings. Thus far this winter the road has made a small surplus each month.

## News of the Week.

The Secretary of the Treasury ordered the destruction of \$554,080 in greenbacks, Thursday.

The delation of Winslow, the Boston Post stock forger, now figures as high as \$600,000. The amount stolen from the Northampton, Mass., bank was \$720,000 in bonds and securities, a considerable amount of which was negotiable.

Gen. McClellan declines to superintend improvements in Brazilian harbors at \$20,000 per year.

Representative Henry D. Starkweather, of Connecticut, died in Washington, at 8 o'clock, Friday morning, of pneumonia.

The bill to repeal the so-called "Grey Nuns Act" passed the State Senate Thursday.

The bill passed the House of Representatives Wednesday reducing the postage on third-class mail to 1 cent for two ounces.

Speaker Kerr is out in a letter for Hendricks as the democratic candidate for President.

Speeches on the financial question occupied the time of the House of Representatives, Saturday.

Treasurer Burdette, of West Virginia, has been impeached and removed from office.

The strike of the shoe operatives at Rochester ends in favor of employers.

The Osage Indians, in the Indian Territory, have been stealing cattle again and been badly punished by United States soldiers who overtook them.

Dr. Charles Wornes, formerly captain and quartermaster in the United States army, was arrested in Montreal, Sunday, by special agents of the United States Post Office Department, charged with forgery committed in Philadelphia in November last. Papers for his extradition are in the hands of the officers.

The residence of Rev. Dr. W. E. Knox, of Elmira, was entered by burglars, Sunday evening, while he and his family were at church. Several hundred dollars in gold and silverware were taken. Among the articles were a sleeve button and breastpin of smoked crystal jewelry, very rare in this country. There is no trace of the thieves.

John Stellwager, the Buffalo private banker who suspended last Monday morning, committed suicide Saturday night by throwing himself in the Erie basin. His body was found there Sunday morning, partially out of the water, and frozen solid. There was about \$4,000 in his pockets. He had been missing since the previous afternoon. From his peculiar actions the past week, it is thought he was laboring under a fit of insanity. The assets of the bank will amount to \$119,000, and the liabilities \$108,000.

Two men and four horses broke through and disappeared under the ice, Saturday evening, between Montreal and La Prairie.

In the Senate, Monday, the military academy bill passed, the two amendments adopted, making the pay of cadets \$540, without rations, and detailing a staff officer to act as quartermaster for the battalion of cadets.

Sunday night the house of David Skidmore, a wealthy farmer who lived a mile from Deer Park, L. I., was burned, together with all the out buildings. Among the ruins were found the charred bodies of Skidmore, Fleet M. Weeks, an old man who had lived with Skidmore many years, and Mrs. Titus, the housekeeper, and her husband. Skidmore was almost constantly in litigation with some of his neighbors, and had, it is alleged, a great many enemies. The supposition is that he was murdered and that the premises were then fired, the other occupants of the house being unable to escape. The house was situated in a retired spot, a considerable distance from any other buildings.

The monthly debt statement for January showed a reduction of \$1,599,155.47.

## PARISH.

Alderman William Wightman, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, is in town visiting his relatives and friends. He was born in this town, but left about 22 years ago. He is brother of Mrs. Harmon Ames, of Mexico.

Dr. Rulison returned from Canada, his medical diploma not being recognized there. We think John Bull is quite too particular. We think as long as we receive their editors they should receive our doctors. Brother Jonathan's doctors are as good as John Bull's.

ODD.

Parish, Jan. 24, 1876.  
[The above came too late for last week's issue.]

## Masonic.

On Jan. 26, 1876, the last regular convocation of Mexico Chapter, No. 135, the following officers were installed for 1876:

T. W. Skinner, H. P. E. Rulison, King. L. F. Alfred, Scribe. S. L. Alexander, Treasurer. H. H. Dobson, Secretary. G. W. Bradner, C. H. J. G. Van Buren, P. S. E. L. Huntington, R. A. C. G. A. Penfield, M. 3 V. E. H. Wadsworth, M. 2 V. W. A. Tillapaugh, M. 1 V. W. M. Ely, Sentinel.

—Senator Hammond's bill dividing the State into judicial districts, provides for placing the county of Oneida in the sixth judicial district, together with Oneida, Madison, Oswego, Cayuga, Cortland, Chenango and Broome.

—Why don't you send that form to press? screamed the night editor up through the speaking tube. "Why, because our devil's missing," returned the foreman, "and we haven't had any orders from below."—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

—Mr. C. F. Wright, so well and favorably known among us, left last Monday for Cincinnati to continue his medical studies.

—Mr. Hinds, the owner of the mammoth ox which was exhibited at our fair last fall, proposes to take him to the Centennial.

—The "Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions," connected with Grace church, will meet at Mrs. Barrett's, on Thursday evening of this week.

—The Town Board of Sandy Creek has notified Horace Scripture to resign his office of Overseer of the Poor for that town, and has appointed a committee of investigation of which Supervisor Root is chairman.

—In consequence of the R. W. & O. railroad bridge over the Erie canal in Rome being burnt last Monday afternoon, the evening train from the east was delayed and did not reach here till about ten o'clock.

—Mr. Wm. T. Knight's team ran away one day last week, breaking the neck-yoke, tongue and whiffletree. Mr. Knight feels his horses pretty well, and they take advantage when he is not with them.

—An illustration of the evils of not advertising is given by the Detroit Free Press: "A Boston grocer was telling a newspaper man that it was simply throwing away money to advertise, when the sheriff came in and shut up the store. Retribution is always looming around."

—Mr. Breed, the President of the Syracuse and Phoenix Railroad, visited the eastern cities last week, to make arrangements for iron for laying the track of that road. We learn that he was successful, but the particulars have not been made public.

—The Lakeside Press says that on Saturday last Mrs. Johnson, an old lady resident at North Bay, was sitting with her feet upon the stove warming them, when she suddenly became unconscious, and when found her feet were so badly burned as to cripple her for life.

—The Sandy Creek News says: "Mr. Burt of Port Ontario, who has been sick with the dropsy some two or three months, died January 17th. A post-mortem examination was held and it was found that his liver and one of his lungs were turned to stone—pronounced by the doctors inward stone cancer."

—Report that it that on Sunday night, the 23d ult., a young man of this village, who is not an entire stranger to our office, soon after retiring to bed, had a peculiar dream, which so impressed him that, on awaking, he immediately donned his clothes, rushed down stairs, and started for the home of his Mary Jane. After having a long and earnest talk with her, he became composed, and even happy, and has been happy ever since.

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Containing a development of the verb; illustrations of idioms; lessons on the different periods of human life; natural history of animals, and a description of each month in the year. This is one of the best reading books that has ever been prepared for deaf-mutes, and furnishes an excellent practical method of making them familiar with pure, simple, idiomatic English. It is well adapted also for the instruction of hearing children.

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